

K Jackson

A GUIDE TO *6*
ADVENTURERS IN THE LOTTERY;
OR, PLAN
OF THE
AMICABLE SOCIETY OF LOTTERY ADVENTURERS;

*Instituted 21st of October, 1783, and held at No. 22, EXCHANGE
ALLEY, Cornhill, LONDON.*

C O N T A I N I N G

I. The rise, progress, and design of the AMICABLE SOCIETY of Lottery Adventurers, with some remarks upon Lotteries.

II. The full cases submitted to Counsel, relative to the legality of this institution, with their opinions thereon.

III. A particular statement and demonstration of the methods adopted for the security of the Members or Subscribers.

IV. A Table of the Dividends upon every Prize, and agreement with Subscribers, for the English State Lottery, 1785.

V. A description of the numerous frauds attempted under the pretences of SUBSCRIPTION SOCIETIES, particularly in country towns and villages, with such cautions as will prove generally useful and important.

VI. Observations upon chances and policies, with plain rules to ascertain their real value, and avoid deception.

—SICUT NOVISTI RECTIUS ISTIS
CANDIDUS IMPERTI; SI NON, HIS UTERE MECUM.
HOR. EPIST. LIB. I.

L O N D O N:

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A GUIDE TO

ADVENTURERS IN THE LOTTERY

OF THE

AMERICAN LOTTERY & TICKET OFFICE

NEW YORK, 1871

BY

THE

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TO THE
P U B L I C.

No. 22, Exchange-Alley.

Jan. 2d. 1786.

FROM the very flattering opinions given by those who have seen the following pages in manuscript, I am led to entertain an hope that they will not altogether disappoint expectation. I arrogate no merit to myself, nor can I claim any beyond the arranging a compilation of suggestions and information kindly afforded by the *most able* and *competent* judges of the subject. I do not presume to stand forward, as a candidate for literary fame; and therefore trust that the eye of criticism will look down upon me with indulgence.

I can with pleasure venture to assert, that no undertaking of any kind, wherein so many thousands were engaged, ever produced such general satisfaction as THIS SOCIETY. To preserve this reputation will be my constant aim so long as I have the honour to act for it. All letters respecting the business, or requiring explanations of any kind, directed to me at No. 22, *Exchange Alley*, will be carefully attended to, by

The Public's

Most obedient Servant,

RICHARD JACKSON.

P U B L I C

TO THE

THE LONDON SOCIETY

FROM THE LONDON SOCIETY
The following is a list of the
names of the persons who have
been elected to the office of
President of the Society for the
year 1844. The names are
given in alphabetical order.
The names of the persons who
have been elected to the office
of Vice-President are given
in alphabetical order.
The names of the persons who
have been elected to the office
of Secretary are given in
alphabetical order.
The names of the persons who
have been elected to the office
of Treasurer are given in
alphabetical order.
The names of the persons who
have been elected to the office
of Librarian are given in
alphabetical order.
The names of the persons who
have been elected to the office
of Auditor are given in
alphabetical order.



I am with pleasure
caring of my kind, when
was engaged, even produced
as this Society. The
be my constant and long as I have the honor
actor in. All letters
during explanations of any kind, directed to me
Do. at. London. Will be carefully attended
to by

The Public

Most obedient servant

RICHARD JACKSON

P L A N
OF THE
AMICABLE SOCIETY.

PERHAPS there is no subject of such general and extended concern, so little understood as the Lottery. What the public prints have conveyed, has indeed, frequently been hostile to the operations of this species of finance. Some of them have sedulously endeavoured to create prejudices and objections, not only without the least argument, but even at the expence of truth. For what reason cannot easily be divined, in as much as many of them have from hence derived their original support and foundation, when they had few other advertisements ; and all are for some months benefited by it.

Nothing can be more ill-founded than the idea of gambling attached to the purchase of a lottery ticket, which remains in the possession of the proprietor till its fate is ascertained. Few advance their money without some prospect of extraordinary advantage, which, in proportion to its possible magnitude, must be attended with hazard, or, at least, with that kind of view which is called speculation. What is a *Tontine* ? but a *lottery of lives*, wherein no adventurer can expect to amend his circumstances but by the *deaths* of his competitors ; and, as naturally as he wishes for success, *must wish* that a certain number of human beings may be swept away by plague or conflagration.

Admitting that what is termed insuring upon casual events of numbers is a sort of gaming which may cre-

ate an objection, it is totally prohibited under heavy penalties, its *immediate* consequences, by a very summary process; penalties, indeed, much more severe than are annexed to any other gaming. But, supposing this was not, as it really is the case, are there not other events besides those of a lottery upon which the public at large might and would speculate? Any person of reflection can answer the question, and will say that Ingenuity could point out a variety of methods which would answer the purpose every jot as well. Who has heard of estates of 20,000*l.* per ann. and more being swallowed up in a lottery? How many instances of that kind does the single street of St. James's furnish, where more money is gambled in one night than in an whole year upon the lottery, without the public or the kingdom reaping the least emoluments, which are commonly engrossed by the most worthless of society?

The misapplication of the capital prizes by those who have been so fortunate as to obtain them, has been another favourite theme for declamation, and certainly none more weak and ridiculous, avowedly used to object for the mere sake of objecting. A review of the proprietors of the great prizes, as long as we can trace them, proves the direct contrary, and shews that they have been much more prudently enjoyed than large fortunes unexpectedly bequeathed, or even derived from hereditary entail. Of this the last lottery furnishes a particular and notable instance. One of the prizes of 20,000*l.* was divided into shares, and was vested in the lower classes of the community in proportions from 5,000*l.* to 1,200*l.* each; yet we do not hear of these fortunate adventurers becoming sacrifices to vice and dissipation! just the reverse; they every one placed their money in the funds, and continue their respective occupations with the same industry as before.

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The following brief statement of the advantages which have been drawn from lotteries, when the plan of paying the prizes in money instead of funding has been adopted will demonstrate the importance of this great resource.

In the year 1769, the profit upon 60,000 tickets, with the use of the principal sum without interest amounted to 210,000*l*.

In 1770 and 1771, the profit upon 50,000 tickets was 220,000*l*. both, 440,000*l*.

In 1772, 1774 and 1775, the profit upon each lottery of 60,000 tickets was 180,000*l*. in all 540,000*l*.

After this period, the exigencies of the state requiring loans, the lotteries became annexed to them as auxiliaries and douceurs indispensable upon such occasions. The profit however is still the same, as without a lottery this amount must have been made up by a further addition to the debt, or in some other way. Under these circumstances, the average advantages from 1776 to 1784, inclusive, are upwards of 1,700,000*l*. These with the profits above stated, when there were no loans, shew that this operation of finance has cleared to the nation THREE MILLIONS within the last fifteen years, without incurring any debt or additional tax. An accurate survey of this subject taken from the first origin of a lottery will demonstrate, that if they had never been in use, the national debt would be at this moment THIRTY MILLIONS more than it is; to which may be added the important consideration, that if the *voluntary contributions* of the people, in this shape, were absolutely appropriated and suffered to accumulate, upon the principles recommended by Dr. Price, THEY ALONE would discharge double the amount of the *whole national debt* in a less time than it has been contracting.

There are many collateral benefits arising from a lottery beyond those immediately proposed and appearing. Many dependants gratified, and many deriving subsistence from it. In various branches the revenue augmented ; in the stamps materially so, by advertisements and otherwise. In the Post-office to a great degree, it being proved by a very authentic computation, that the extraordinary postage in the circulation of letters upon this account, is annually above TEN THOUSAND POUNDS. One of the most celebrated authors of this country, no less conspicuous for the beauties than the morality of his writings, descants upon this subject with admiration of that legislature which, from a politic amusement and relaxation of the people, drew an immense voluntary revenue to the state.

But even admitting some degree of objection annexed to a lottery ; is it in any comparison to the vast benefits accruing from it ? If a small portion of evil is to be a decisive argument against a productive article of revenue, what is to become of the revenue ? Under such an opinion it must be sensibly diminished indeed ! Let all its branches be lopped off which, in any degree, administer to luxury, extravagance, dissipation and vice, and it will be reduced to a very narrow compass.

It is still further to be argued, that the voluntary contribution raised from a lottery, does not flow from the people of ENGLAND alone. Other countries, the whole commercial world add to, and advance it. By the regulations recently adopted in IRELAND, not less than a balance of 40,000*l.* annually will be drawn from thence. Moreover let it be considered, that if there was no lottery in England, there are multitudes attached to that kind of speculation who would be adventurers in any shape, and at any rate, sooner than not at all. The natural consequence must be, that instead of large sums being

being drawn into this country, large sums would infallibly be transferred abroad, and particularly to France and Holland, where there are constant lotteries; it is worth notice, that foreigners prefer the English lotteries always to their own, and that their demand for the tickets are very considerable, and far beyond what is generally conceived or understood; so that in this case the balance would be infinitely against us.

In the reigns of Queen Anne and King George the 1st. there were frequent lotteries of 100,000 and even 150,000 ten pound tickets, to which there never was any deficiency of subscribers. They were always filled, though nothing equal in advantage and prospect to modern lotteries; and notwithstanding innumerable Guinea and other small private lotteries were grafted upon them. In these private lotteries men of the first rank and consequence then took the lead and acted as trustees. They were at length prohibited by the legislature, under the impression that they interfered with, and injured the sale of the state tickets, which were at that time considered as an object of great importance, though the debt of the country was scarcely an eighth part of what it now is.

After this period alterations and innovations became frequent in the various acts for establishing lotteries, and, as is generally the case, tended more to defeat than to promote the end it was their intent to obtain. These variations were continued till the year 1782, when their expected consequences were completed, by the enactment of the present ill advised, complicated, unintelligible code of law, which acts as a manacle only upon those of *property and character*, from whom the public are assured of fair and just conduct, while it opens a door for those of exactly a contrary description, and precisely prevents an extended circulation of
the

the tickets themselves ; it might really be supposed that this act was intended to effect the very opposite of what its preambles to the different clauses recite. A large sum arising from the duty upon licences has been wonderfully relinquished, and that kind of lottery offices which justified complaint, increased by no licence being necessary.

The public finding themselves limited as to the amount they might be disposed to adventure, and not permitted to purchase a real share of an actual ticket under a certain denomination, had recourse to *joining* their money, and four and five subscribing to the purchase of *a sixteenth or an eighth share*. From hence many have experienced inconvenience and disappointment. It has happened that the holder of the share (and in the hands of some ONE it must be) has been very unwilling to make a division of a *considerable prize* to his colleagues in good fortune.

Others contribute small sums at taverns and public-houses to the purchase of tickets, the produce of which are to be divided among the members of such LOTTERY CLUBS, according to the rules upon which they agree. Here the same objection recurs as to the trust as in the former, though more confined, sphere of acting. In both, there is the disagreeable circumstance of each individual member not possessing any private or particular voucher of his or her interest, in the ticket or share ; which is still more exceptionable as many wish pursuits of this kind to be attended with secrecy. At public-houses, to say nothing of the waste of time, there is generally more money spent than the amount of the adventure.

It is also obvious that the purchasing of divisions of tickets at many of the offices, is not without hazard of material disappointment. The dangerous speculations
of

of some of this business, nay the obscurity of late acts of parliament, combine to render these transactions precarious ; experience amply proves that judgment and a *proper discrimination* in these cases, are advantageous and important.

It has before been urged and demonstrated, that a ticket, or any part of a ticket purchased and put aside till its fate is determined, cannot come under the title of gaming. A small specific sum is laid out, and *there* ends the transaction. There is no temptation to increase it, nor is it extended into additional advance from day to day, till it mounts into consequence.

These considerations, and all the above stated circumstances, gave birth and origin to the AMICABLE SOCIETY OF LOTTERY ADVENTURERS, and *general subscription for the purchase of lottery tickets and legal stamped shares*. It seemed, that by a GENERAL OPEN CLUB conducted under proper regulations, and where a public office was held forth as a mark always to be resorted to, that all the exceptions against private and confined subscriptions would be effectually removed, the public at large greatly accommodated, the actual sale of real tickets and shares promoted, and a very important and extensive institution established. With the approbation, patronage, and support of several persons of very high rank and character, THIS SOCIETY was opened on the 21st day of October, in the year 1783—Its first objects were, security to the adventurers, and an adherence and conformity to the laws in its management and transactions. The first will, in these pages, be demonstrated as amply in theory, as experience has confirmed it in practice. For two successive years, the subscribers have been proprietors in shares of the prizes of TWENTY THOUSAND POUNDS. These are the criterions in lottery concerns, of integrity, perma-

nence and strict justice. The bubble must of course infallibly burst where any other lines are pursued. If the tickets are made away with, *or multiplied over and over beyond what such prizes will answer*, in these cases, the fatal discovery surely takes place, and the adventurers are overwhelmed in disappointment, far greater than if fate had allotted them blanks. In the illiberal and fraudulent imitations of THIS SOCIETY, (imitations in name only, but not in transactions) in prizes much inferior to those of £20,000, hundreds can bear testimony to the justice of these observations, and sensibly feel that such SUBSCRIPTION SOCIETIES became invisible when they approached with their claims.

It is plain to common reason, that if private and limited clubs, associated for the purposes of purchasing lottery tickets and shares of tickets are legal, any one *of a more extended and general nature*, for the same purposes, must also be equally LEGAL. However, as those who introduced this undertaking were of that description who, upon no account, would act otherwise, than with caution and the most strict propriety, the annexed case was at different periods submitted to counsel for their opinion.

Here it may not be improper to remark, that the office of THIS SOCIETY is No. 22, Exchange Alley, Cornhill, and *no where else*. It is not to be considered *as a lottery office*, nor are any insurances or other business appertaining to such, permitted to be transacted there.

Those who receive subscriptions at other places, of which there are several upon account of THIS SOCIETY, act merely as agents to it for the time being by special appointment of the managers and directors, without any connection whatever, than what relates solely to *its own concerns* which are limited

to

to the admission of subscribers. The utmost care is used to appoint safe and responsible persons, some of whom acting in other business of the lottery, it is necessary to say thus much, without meaning disparagement to them, in order to prevent any misunderstandings.

C A S E.

‘ It is a circumstance obvious, that the purchasing of
 ‘ divisions of lottery tickets, at many of the offices, sub-
 ‘ jects adventurers to the hazard of material disappoint-
 ‘ ment : the intentional dishonesty of some concerned
 ‘ in this traffic ; the dangerous speculations of others,
 ‘ and the obscurity of late acts of parliament, all com-
 ‘ bining to render in various shapes, the basis of such
 ‘ transactions exceedingly precarious.

‘ Still more exceptionable are other methods in use,
 ‘ and particularly that of contributing small sums at
 ‘ taverns and public houses towards the purchase of lot-
 ‘ tery tickets or shares, in which case every individual
 ‘ not only trusts an eventual and possibly great property,
 ‘ very frequently to an obscure person, but, to say no-
 ‘ thing of loss of time, is imperceptibly seduced to waste
 ‘ more money than the actual amount of his adventure.

‘ Upon these considerations, several gentlemen, who
 ‘ have for some time past, associated in a subscription for
 ‘ the purchase of state lottery tickets and shares thereof,
 ‘ imagine it might be conducive to the public good, to
 ‘ extend generally the plan they had privately adopted
 ‘ among themselves, and afford all persons of EITHER
 ‘ SEX, wishing to become Adventurers in the smallest
 ‘ degree, an opportunity without loss of time, or risque
 ‘ of disappointment.

‘ Your opinion is requested.

A

‘A number of persons forming themselves into a club
 ‘or society of universal extent, admitting as members
 ‘all who apply for that purpose, in order to purchase state
 ‘lottery tickets, and such shares thereof as are allowed and
 ‘permitted by the act of the 22d of Geo. 3d. One or more
 ‘managing and transacting the business—Holding in
 ‘trust, and being responsible for such tickets and shares—
 ‘paying the dividends upon the prizes agreeable to cer-
 ‘tain regulations reciprocally agreed upon, and the price
 ‘paid by each member for his respective interest therein,
 ‘and delivering to every member or subscriber, a receipt
 ‘or voucher of such his interest according to his sub-
 ‘scription.

1st. ‘Whether such transactions are illegal, or can be
 ‘construed liable to any penalty by any act in force re-
 ‘specting lotteries*?

2d. ‘Whether the following form of receipt or certi-
 ‘ficate of admission to be delivered to the party sub-
 ‘scribing, or becoming a member, is within the descrip-
 ‘tion of promising to pay any money upon a *chance*, or
 ‘*event relative or applicable to the drawing of a ticket*,
 ‘and whether it is not sufficiently pointed in expressing,
 ‘that the party who receives it, is with others absolutely
 ‘a contributor towards the purchase of the actual ticket
 ‘or share to be held in trust, the NUMBER whereof it sets
 ‘forth and describes—You are requested to observe any
 ‘error which may appear, or alteration which may seem
 ‘necessary.’

* The specimen of a receipt or certificate was the same now de-
 livered to subscribers (and which under the HEAD of SECURITY
 will be noticed) only the sums upon each prize were specified with
 an *if* preceding, the withdrawing of which, and the alteration of a
 few words, constituted the amendment above alluded to.

ANSWER.

A N S W E R.

The intended scheme of a general open society receiving subscriptions towards the purchase of lottery tickets, in which the contributors are to have an interest ad valorem, in proportions agreed upon, appears to me unexceptionable, and even likely to prove of public utility.

The amendment I have suggested in the instrument called the certificate of admission, removes all possibility of its being construed into an engagement or promise to do anything depending upon an event or contingency relative or applicable to the drawing of a ticket, the only prohibition of the acts of parliament, which in this case could interfere.

February 22, 1783.

H. HOWORTH.

P L A N O F S E C U R I T Y,

And method of conducting the transactions of the AMICABLE SOCIETY of lottery adventurers, and general subscription for the purchase of lottery tickets and legal stamped shares, instituted the 21st of October, 1783.

C E R T I F I C A T E.

This is the instrument, receipt, or voucher, delivered to every subscriber—It is neither a *share*, a *chance*, or a *policy*, or agreement to do anything upon any event, but most explicitly declares (as all who read it must see) that the party is a subscriber towards *the actual purchase* of a ticket or a stamped share, authorized by an act passed in the twenty second year of the reign of his present Majesty.

R E M A R K.

To receive money upon such an instrument as the above, intentionally not holding the ticket or share it implies,

implies, is a palpable fraud and subject to a prosecution—nevertheless, thousands have been, and are so issued—most in London, if not all, are such—and without exception, EVERY ONE sold by agents in the country towns and villages, under the pretences of receiving subscriptions to SOCIETIES of various titles and denominations.

REAL TICKETS AND LEGAL STAMPED SHARES.

The very name of a society, collectively subscribing to the purchase of *tickets and shares*, decidedly imports, that such tickets or shares must exist, and be held in trust for the benefit of the members—however that frequently is not the case, as is plainly shewn in the foregoing remark—To prove, that the managers and directors of the AMICABLE SOCIETY OF LOTTERY ADVENTURERS, even preclude THEMSELVES from the power of deception, could they be capable of intending it, EVERY CERTIFICATE is marked *in words at length*, with the GOVERNMENT SECURITY to which the party subscribes—for example, if the subscription is to a whole ticket, the certificate is marked, WHOLE TICKET—if to a *share* it is marked STAMPED SHARE, and also the office where such share is purchased, if from Richardson and Goodluck, the mark is, *stamped share, Richardson and Goodluck*. If from Hazard and Co. *stamped share, Hazard and Co.* If from Wenham and Co. *stamped share, Wenham and Co.* and in like manner with others.

R E M A R K.

The eyes of the whole kingdom are upon this undertaking, and its transactions are narrowly watched by the depredators of public property, whose sinister
views

views it has disappointed ; any deviation from the line of propriety would be seized with avidity. Yet, shielded by conscious integrity, the managers open *themselves* to sure detection, if they wander from their principles.—If any certificate was marked as the number of a whole ticket which they did not possess, *such ticket* could easily be procured by advertisement, or a premium, to falsify their assertions, and at once destroy their fabric.

Still more certain and summary is the detection in the case of *stamped shares* ; by act of parliament, for the sum of TWO PENCE, any person may be informed at the stamp office, whether the share is made out at the office to which it is ascribed.—In every view it must appear, that these tests could not be challenged acting otherwise than with the strictest rectitude.

S E C U R I T Y.

A number of persons, with large property at stake, certainly will, and can be more cautious than any individual not so conversant or interested in the business.—They must be well informed of whom they buy shares of tickets, to which they admit subscribers whom at all events **THEY** must pay.

Circumstances prove, that *this consideration* alone is of very great importance—it is very well known that the original tickets, tho' deposited in the stamp office, have, in cases of bankruptcy, been compelled to be given up and applied to other purposes than the payment of the shares ; the holders of such shares remaining only in the situation of other creditors, whether any dividend took place, or none at all. In the **AMICABLE SOCIETY**, if the office is unquestionable where the shares are purchased, (and in this point, great attention

attention is used) the certificate of subscription towards them must also be *at least* equally good ; and without disparagement to any, *so far better* as a good security added to a good security, must still strengthen and confirm it.

RETAINING OF TICKETS AND SHARES TILL DRAWN, AND JUST APPLICATION OF THEIR PRODUCE.

As amongst the various frauds and devices to impose PRETENDED SUBSCRIPTION SOCIETIES upon the unwary ; one method (besides copying the terms of the AMICABLE SOCIETY) is to publish, *previous to the drawing*, the numbers of, or exhibit a few tickets, which are multiplied over and over without end, if subscribers can be found, and often when the drawing begins, the very tickets are also sold, so that the adventurer can receive nothing, if a prize of value occurs. The managers of the AMICABLE SOCIETY, to remove every doubt upon this head, will at an early period DURING THE DRAWING, publish a list of all the tickets subscribed to, which being *at that time*, universally circulated, must render certain a detection of any sale of such tickets as well as give much satisfaction to subscribers.

The security and utility of this single regulation, will receive their due weight from the suggestion that in the lottery of 1784, when a knot of sharps contrived to occupy No. 4, Exchange Alley, formerly the office of the AMICABLE SOCIETY, the title of which they assumed, endeavouring to represent themselves as the same parties, they openly applied, though without success, at some of the principal offices to purchase shares, *merely to exhibit till the drawing began*, under an agreement that, they (the office owners) should take them

them back again the *first day* of drawing, deducting an allowance for the use of them till that time.

But in addition to all the foregoing most just and surely satisfactory precautions, the Managers and Directors, with the Secretary immediately acting, of the AMICABLE SOCIETY of Lottery Adventurers, are bound to do *strict justice* in every minute shape, by such ties and solemn oath as permit no evasion or subterfuge. The following is so clear, explicit, diffuse and conclusive, that the world must be convinced, deception can bear no part in the principles of THIS INSTITUTION, and that it is guided by the most pure and honourable motives.

RICHARD SYMONS JACKSON maketh oath and sayeth that as Secretary to the Amicable Society of Lottery Adventurers instituted the 21st of October, 1783, and signing and delivering the certificates issued therefrom, He will not knowingly permit any person or persons to pay any money, or subscribe towards the purchase of any number, but that of a real ticket, or legal share thereof, stamped agreeable to ACT OF PARLIAMENT; nor will make, sign, or issue any certificate declaring any person to be a subscriber to, or joint proprietor in, any tickets or shares of tickets which are not the actual property of this society. And the said Richard Symons Jackson, farther maketh oath and sayeth, that the tickets and stamped shares of tickets, HELD IN TRUST for the members of this society shall upon no account be sold, made away with, or disposed of; but shall be faithfully secured and retained till after the ACTUAL TIME OF DRAWING THEREOF, and the produce applied to the payment of the respective dividends; and that he will not issue, or cause to be issued, more certificates of subscription, or suffer a greater number of subscribers or claimants to be admitted for any ticket or share of a ticket, than the prize which
may

may belong to such ticket or share will enable this society to satisfy and discharge.

RICH. S. JACKSON.

Sworn at my house in Great George-street, Westminster, the 24th of November, 1785, before

G. NARES.

An oath to render strict justice, similar in substance and effect is taken by the Managers and Directors.

RECAPITULATION.

To sum up the whole, it must clearly appear, that the members of the AMICABLE SOCIETY

Ist. Are really subscribers to ACTUAL TICKETS or legal STAMPED SHARES, added to and confirmed in security by the Society itself.

IId. That such tickets and shares cannot be made away with or disposed of, before they are drawn.

IIId. That claimants cannot be multiplied beyond the amount the prizes will enable to pay.

IVth. That the prizes must be faithfully applied to the uses of the Society.

Vth. That there is the strongest evidence of justice and integrity in the intent of this institution, and that every precaution and security human wisdom can devise, are exerted to execute and maintain it.

It may, upon some occasion, be of use to subscribers to be informed, that the figures upon every certificate of subscription, importing the number of subscribers, denotes the *total amount of members of the Society* up to that time, and including the delivery of such certificate. It has no reference to the number of members who subscribe towards the purchase of the ticket or stamped share which the certificate sets forth. The foregoing precautions amply demonstrate, that

THEY MUST BE LIMITED to the amount the prize will discharge. *The number of subscribers*, annexed as above-mentioned, is intended as a general numerical index, by which any particular subscriber can immediately be found; and if Ladies and Gentlemen take a note of *this* number; in case of loss, robbery, fire, or any such accidents, their property can still be ascertained, as their names stand severally upon the subscription books, affixed to such separate numbers, of which there are no duplicates.

So numerous are the *really* fallacious schemes extant in imitation of this institution, copying its very terms, assuming similar titles, and without the least truth or foundation describing themselves as acting in the same manner, and upon the same principles; that it would be no matter of wonder if THIS was hastily confounded with them, included in the general mass, and its originality, justice, and unimpeachable conduct forgotten. To do away any prejudice of this kind, to lay clearly open its principles and transactions to the eyes of the discerning, are leading motives to this publication, which it is presumed will clearly demonstrate that this institution cannot come under the description of a Lottery Office, no kind of business being permit-

which bears any analogy to such; but it being in the office of every member, and all the members of THIS SOCIETY. That it is a general OPEN subscription to the purchase of whole tickets, and legal stamped shares, conducted upon the principles that any confined or private Lottery Society is, or at least ought to be conducted; of course as clearly legal. Adding to the whole the very great advantage and important consideration, that the subscribers cannot be disappointed in the purchase of shares, not only from the utmost caution and best judgment being exerted, but from their being, at all events, positively and specially guaranteed by the Society itself.

If it is possible to add further weight to these considerations, or necessary to enlarge upon the opinions of council, and the evidence of common sense, as to the legality of this undertaking, it may be reasoned, that the receipts, vouchers, or certificates, of which every subscriber to or joint proprietor in this society becomes possessed, are so carefully and properly penned, as to be *real securities* upon which an *action at law* could be maintained, and a verdict assuredly recovered for any claim whatever; if it was possible to suppose, that where experience has shewn the VERY HIGHEST PRIZES to be faithfully applied, honesty and equity should ever be disclaimed and disregarded. The act of Parliament expressly and decisively declares, that in all cases where the agreement is illegal, *the contract shall be null and void*. Here the contract is binding and efficient, and most plainly being so, must be legal and *cannot* be otherwise. If THIS SOCIETY was not under the descriptions which have been stated, it could not meet the patronage it has experienced; a reference to the books will shew it is honoured with many names highly flattering to the projectors of any undertaking, and of the first distinction in the kingdom.

No. 22, EXCHANGE ALLEY,

Dividends, agreement, compact, and contract between the managers of THIS SOCIETY, and the members or subscribers.

IT must certainly be agreeable to the subscribers, as well as to the managers to have some precise line drawn of the eventual claims which must arise, under the various and respective subscriptions, or in other words, to compute as nearly as possible, avoiding fractions, what each prize will make separately and individually to
all

all its proprietors—It might perplex the understandings of many, and by experience it is known would not be generally satisfactory, to state that there were at the rate of *twenty-nine, forty-four*, or any given number of members subscribers to a ticket. No law can intend to restrain the information, how much the 29th or the 44th part of £20,000 is. It is not the amount of a sum received for a ticket, or an interest therein that constitutes an offence, but the promise to do any thing upon an event *relative or collateral* to its being drawn, either as to time or circumstance. Any man or set of men may sell his or their ticket for fifty or a hundred pounds, or whatever can be procured.

If any of the licensed offices set forth in their proposals, that a quarter share of a ticket sold at any price they pleased, produced £5000, the fourth part of a prize of £20,000, £2,500 for a 10,000 and so on, it surely cannot be imagined they incurred any penalty, nor does the act mean it—its intent is not to impede, but to promote the sale of real tickets and shares, to which *this society* materially contributes. Yet such is the ambiguity of the words of an ill penned act, that upon this very point futile and absurd as it is, have those pests of society, common informers endeavoured to levy contributions.

The managers therefore think it proper in the annexed statement, to desire they may not be understood, to *promise or agree* to do any thing, or pay any sum upon *any event or contingency relative or applicable* to the drawing of a ticket. Every thing mentioned, they mean most pointedly and explicitly to only convey the necessary information what the ticket itself, or the stamped share thereof is worth separately in the different cases, to the joint and collective proprietors: whatever is *relative* to the drawing of a ticket or share must mean, if there is meaning in words, a collateral cir-

cumstance distinct from itself. Here what is stated, is intended to be, and *is positively* the ticket itself, or the stamped share, authorized and permitted by the act of parliament, without any kind of reference to its fate.

The Managers and Directors of this institution do not wish or desire to appropriate the least profit to themselves. Their first motives were a public service. Their only interested views, to give employment to a number of dependants and persons of good conduct and character, and to establish a connected society, which will in time grow into great extent and power, upon many other occasions beyond the present pursuit.

The following computation is estimated as *nearly*, as the best experience, judgment, and information can suggest, so as to answer the contingent expences of the the undertaking; it is obvious what difficulty must occur, in case of deficiency, in making a call upon many thousand subscribers, in a large majority of instances of *such small sums*, that a trifling requisition *per centum*, could scarcely be individually ascertained. The estimate of expences made for the three last lotteries, has constantly been under-rated, and some considerable loss has fallen upon the managers.

In the following statement it is to be observed, that in some cases, the whole of the subscribers do not make up the price of a ticket; that during the drawing subscribers have the privilege of continuing or increasing their subscription at the *first* and *original rate*, whatever the price of tickets may be, whether 50*l.* or even 100*l.* each; the former price is probable; the latter far from impossible; consequently the Managers are considerably in advance, for which they have no indemnification or security but what may be produced in the small prizes of 20*l.* However, from these
such

such subscribers are nevertheless, *not excluded*. A fair account will be laid before all the members of this Society, within one month after the drawing is finished, in which all the moneys received by subscriptions, and arising from prizes of *every denomination, without exception*, will be clearly stated on the one hand, and the disbursements, subscribers paid, and expences attending the business, upon the other. Whatever balance in favour of the society or exceedings appear, each individual subscriber, *pro rata* to his or her subscription, is a joint proprietor of, and in the disposal of it; consequently there can be no profit of which they do not participate.

To these and all other regulations and conditions, every member of this society, at the time of subscribing, by the preamble to the subscription books and the certificate received, testifies, and is hereby apprized that they do testify, assent and consent; and it is presumed, that regulations and conditions more just and unexceptionable cannot easily be formed: under these the following statement or table is given of what the tickets or stamped shares will make, according to the various sums subscribed, and the number of subscribers to each,

It is also to be observed, that in order to create a fund of tickets and shares to enable the managers during the drawing, to gratify those who wish to again become subscribers, upon the first terms, a very considerable proportion of every ticket and share, is now *reserved*, and, in most instances, little more than half the first cost received. Therefore nearly as much more is constantly in advance, independant of the hazard of the drawing upon a very great amount. However, the members of this society will always have the opportunity of keeping up their subscription, at the general

rate of about 15% per ticket, even when the price is double or treble, which infinitely lowers in reality the first estimate of subscription.

SUBSCRIBERS TO FOUR TICKETS *collectively*.
The Dividends are all computed agreeable to the foregoing Regulations and Conditions.

FIRST CLASS, FIVE GUINEAS, each Subscriber.
 The immediate dividends upon each and every one of four tickets are computed at,

Guineas		£.		Guineas		£.
2,000	on	20,000		100	on	1,000
1,000	on	10,000		50	on	500
500	on	5,000		10	on	100
200	on	2,000		6	on	50

N.B. In this class the Managers are considerably in advance : the money immediately subscribed being much short of the first cost of the tickets and shares.

SECOND CLASS of subscribers to Four Tickets collectively THREE GUINEAS.

The immediate Dividends computed upon each and every one of Four Tickets,

£.		£.		£.		£.
1,200	on	20,000		60	on	1,000
600	on	10,000		30	on	500
300	on	5,000		7	on	100
120	on	2,000		4	on	50

THIRD CLASS; ONE GUINEA.

The immediate DIVIDENDS are computed upon each and every one of FOUR Tickets,

Guineas		£.		£. S.		£.
350	on	20,000		18 0	on	1,000
170	on	10,000		10 0	on	500
80	on	5,000		2 5	on	100
35	on	2,000		1 5	on	50

FOURTH

FOURTH CLASS, HALF A GUINEA.

The immediate Dividends are computed, upon each and
and every one of FOUR Tickets,

Guineas		£		£. S.		£.
160	on	20,000		8 8	on	1,000
80	on	10,000		5 5	on	500
40	on	5,000		1 5	on	100
16	on	2,000		12	on	50

A Fifth Class at TEN GUINEAS,

Which is for FIVE TICKETS collectively, upon
each and every one of which the immediate Divi-
dends are computed,

£.		£.		£. S.		£.
4,000	on	20,000		200 0	on	1,000
2,000	on	10,000		100 0	on	500
1,000	on	5,000		25 0	on	100
400	on	2,000		12 10	on	50

*This is another class in which the Managers are very
largely in advance for the Members of this Society; to the
amount of much more than fifty per cent.*

SUBSCRIBERS TO SINGLE TICKETS.

The First Class, HALF A CROWN.

The immediate Dividends are computed at,

£.		£.		£. S. D.		£.
140	on	20,000		8 0 0	on	1,000
70	on	10,000		4 0 0	on	500
35	on	5,000		1 1 0	on	100
15	on	2,000		0 10 6	on	50

The SECOND Class to single Tickets, SEVEN SHIL-
LINGS.

The immediate Dividends are computed at

£.		£.		£. S.		£.
420	on	20,000		20 0	on	1,000
210	on	10,000		12 0	on	500
105	on	5,000		2 10	on	100
40	on	2,000		1 10	on	50

The THIRD Class to single Tickets; HALF A GUINEA.

The immediate Dividends are computed at

£.		£.		£.		£.
700	on	20,000		30	on	1,000
350	on	10,000		16	on	500
100	on	5,000		4	on	100
60	on	2,000		2	on	50

The FOURTH Class to single tickets, ONE GUIN A.

The immediate Dividends are computed at

£.		£.		£.		£.
1,500	on	20,000		70	on	1,000
700	on	10,000		35	on	500
350	on	5,000		8	on	100
140	on	2,000		4	on	50

In this and the preceding (the third class) the subscribers have also credit for a considerable part of the first purchase of the original tickets and stamped shares.

TWO CLASSES

Of subscribers to SINGLE TICKETS, upon another principle and regulation than the foregoing; the small prizes of 20*l.* instead of being carried into the aggregate fund, being immediately accounted for.

The FIRST Class, FOURTEEN SHILLINGS.

The immediate Dividends are computed at

£.		£.		£.		£.
650	upon	20,000		30	on	1,000
320	on	10,000		15	on	500
150	on	5,000		4	on	100
60	on	2,000		2	on	50

And FOURTEEN SHILLINGS upon £. 20.

The

The SECOND CLASS; SIX SHILLINGS.

The immediate Dividends are computed at

£.		£.	£.	S.		£.
250	on	20,000	12	0	on	1,000
120	on	10,000	7	0	on	500
60	on	5,000	1	10	on	100
25	on	2,000	15		on	50

and SIX SHILLINGS upon £. 20.

In this SOCIETY no one particular Ticket or stamped Share, is confined, limited, or appropriated to any one class of subscribers, but generally extends through them all; due care being taken, that when collected into *one view*, there shall not be more claimants or proprietors than the ticket will be adequate to satisfy, which is amply provided for, in the system of securing the members of THIS SOCIETY already described. This observation is made to account for the variety which appears in the foregoing table. It is wished to be as clear and explicit as possible, and to anticipate every objection which the utmost malevolence or misrepresentation could endeavour to create or invent.

After all that has been stated, and the anxiety which has been displayed to afford every possible satisfaction and information, it is perhaps a tedious amplification of the subject, to repeat, that every member of THIS SOCIETY is legally a subscriber to *real tickets*, or *stamped shares* of tickets, participating in every benefit for the WHOLE TIME of drawing, without evasion, reservation, or deception.

Nothing can well be urged against the principles and professions of this plan; a confidence that they will be strictly maintained and adhered to, is all that can be required to give extent and stability to the undertaking. If it was now in its infancy, TIME might be necessary

fary to establish this confidence, and mature it by experience. The managers can, however, with much pleasure remark, that all this is already attained. Their fair and unimpeached distribution of **TWENTY-ONE CAPITAL PRIZES** in the last *English* lottery, and their whole conduct for *three* lotteries, must speak for themselves, and afford a pleasing prospect and assurance of every subscriber, in future, deriving similar attention and advantages.

It now only remains to request those who are, or mean to become members of **THIS SOCIETY** to remark the following observations and regulations ;

Ist. To become a subscriber or member, is as plain as the purchase of a ticket, it being only necessary to state personally or by letter, *the class* intended to be subscribed into, when **A CERTIFICATE** specifying such class, with the number of the ticket, will be delivered or remitted,

IIId. Ladies and Gentlemen subscribing, are intreated to give their real names and address. This will prevent various impositions, and is desired solely from that motive. In case of success, or upon any account whatever, they may be assured of secrecy, and that their names will never be made public.

IIIId. Persons who are justly exceptionable in character, are desired **NOT** to apply to become members of this Society. Such, where they can be discovered, will not be admitted. And if it should appear, upon competent evidence, that any of this description have artfully insinuated themselves, upon a proper requisition from the subscribers objecting, they will be struck from the books, and the subscription returned.

IVth. Proper and correct books, with an account of the drawing of the lottery will be kept to be examined,

ed, without expence, for the information of subscribers.

Vth. Many applications being made relative to the registering of tickets; subscribers are informed, that the so doing being part of the business of a lottery-office, would subject THIS SOCIETY to inconvenience. But all members desirous of having their tickets registered, may have them transmitted to the COMMISSIONER'S Office at WHITEHALL, where six-pence must be paid for every number, and from whence a certain early and authentic account of their fate will be forwarded with the utmost regularity,

VI. All letters and orders to be directed (post paid) to Mr. RICH. JACKSON, No. 22, *Exchange-alley, Cornhill*, opposite the *Royal Exchange, London*, where books are now open to admit subscribers, and the most strict exactness and punctuality will uniformly be observed.

In the last English lottery the following Tickets and shares of Tickets, CAPITAL PRIZES, were the Property of *this Society*.

No.	£.	No.	£.	No.	£.
23,148	20,000	30,791	1,000	5,175	500
33,599	5,000	24,429	1,000	10,020	500
1,085	2,000	31,133	1,000	6,806	500
12,202	1,000	30,900	500	10,487	500
8,434	1,000	31,450	500	30,684	500
18,022	1,000	28,832	500	35,870	500
22,887	1,000	586	500	8,348	500

The Subscribers to the share of the ticket No. 23,148, a prize of *Twenty thousand Pounds*, purchased at *Richardson and Goodluck's* were

One at Half a Guinea £. 740

Two, at Four Shillings, each 220l. 440

1,180

In

In the preceding lottery of 1783, a share of No. 30,503, a prize of *Twenty thousand Pounds*, was also the property of *this Society*.

PRETENDED AND FICTITIOUS SUBSCRIPTION SOCIETIES.

The reader is probably, by this time, fully possessed of the system and intent of the AMICABLE SOCIETY OF LOTTERY ADVENTURERS, at No. 22, EXCHANGE ALLEY. It must be evident, that it has been, and is directed to the public good, and the prevention of the unwary from becoming sacrifices to the VERY IMPOSITIONS now attempted to be renewed.

Contrary, however, to all reasonable expectation, some of the *Lottery-Office keepers* of that description, whom the Legislature lately endeavoured to suppress, have attempted, by various devices, to pervert THIS VERY PLAN into a cloak for circulating illegal and fraudulent chances. It is scarcely to be believed, that in a country where *character* is supposed to be in high estimation, there should be found men, and these men should find agents, not only avowedly to receive money from the credulous, under pretence of a consideration which *they know they do not possess*, but in so doing, to hazard their property, and still more, *their reputation*, for the sake of a profit or commission proportioned to their dexterity and latitude in deception.

It is known by many thousands, that the first general and open *real bona fide Lottery Society*, truly for the purchase of *Lottery Tickets and legal Shares*, was THIS, the AMICABLE SOCIETY. A reference to the public prints, at the time of its *first Institution*, the latter end of October, 1783, will clearly determine this point. It was then introduced at a period too late (about three weeks

weeks before the drawing) for illiberal and unprincipled *plagiarists* to avail themselves of *immediate imitations*. They were compelled to postpone them until another year, when they brought them forward most furiously indeed. In the last English and Irish lotteries the public had innumerable invitations to become members of SOCIETIES, which, upon *their very first appearance*, assured them of their existence, their honour and their punctuality, for different terms from *three to ten years*. Now they are multiplied beyond computation; however, the fate of nine tenths of them in the last lottery, must serve as an ample caution, at least in LONDON.

This description of fleeting lottery projectors have, without intending it, been pleased to honour the AMICABLE SOCIETY with the *highest compliment*. They have carefully watched its motions, and whenever it has issued any advertisement or publication, seized upon the language and substance to apply them to their own proposals. They have even gone further, and when the AMICABLE SOCIETY has removed from one situation to another, immediately possessed themselves of that which was relinquished, and usurped its *title and form*; thus plainly admitting the weight and importance *this plan* has deserved and established.

In the metropolis, these scandalous efforts have not the same sinister effect as in the country. In the former, people are more guarded, and have more direct and ready opportunities of inquiring. In the latter they are not only without these, but are continually importuned and misled, in behalf of the *fraudulent lottery plans*, by *their neighbours*, the *very agents* who are greatly interested in their circulation, and who are appointed in the different towns and villages for that purpose. Added to these, there are *Riders* who travel the country, not only with what they call shares and chances,

chances of *their own*, but what is worse, with *forgeries*, or something *very like it*, of the shares of distinguished offices, and as information has been received, of the *certificates* of the AMICABLE SOCIETY.

It is intended by this publication, not only to warn the unwary against these deceptions, but to point to them such cautions and observations as will protect them, if carefully attended to.

A G E N T S.

Whenever an advertisement appears in a country paper from a *subscription society*, with a *string of names subjoined* who are to receive subscriptions in the *adjacent towns and villages*, it may be depended upon, IT IS AN IMPOSITION. There frequently are NO SUCH OFFICES in London, as these plans are described to be paid at, and even where such do exist, there is either a strong probability, that the adventurer will never receive any thing, or admitting in a very, very few cases that apprehension to be removed, *the transactions are illegal*, and the terms proposed so shamefully disadvantageous, that it is folly in the extreme to adopt them.—This cannot be otherwise, when THE AGENTS have full TWENTY-FIVE per cent. upon the gross receipts for circulating these plans.—They have not the ORIGINAL TICKETS OR STAMPED SHARES of the numbers they issue, and *for every one*, are liable to, A PENALTY OF FIFTY POUNDS; for these purposes every corner of the kingdom is ransacked to procure such agents in every village, as will upon any terms, delude the unwary and inexperienced.

The very few who act out of London, for the managers and directors of the AMICABLE SOCIETY, are persons of known probity, who transact a fair legal business

business upon fair terms. Hundreds of doubtful description have applied and been rejected.

R I D E R S.

Very few words will be necessary for those who travel the country, endeavouring to circulate *subscriptions, shares, chances, &c. &c.* They are employed by *invisible sharpers* without any known place of abode, and who never can be found.—There is not even a shadow of expectation for a single sixpence to return of any money which passes into their hands.

SCHEMES, PLANS, AND PROPOSALS.

Under this head, it is intended to attempt to offer such hints as will enable every person to judge from the features of the scheme they read respecting any SUBSCRIPTION SOCIETY, whether it is probable to be *just* and legal; attention, therefore to the following remarks, is necessary.

Wherever *multitudes* of agents are appointed in towns and villages, the assertion of adventurers being subscribers to *real tickets and shares*, must necessarily BE FALSE and the business illegal. For this plain reason, it is impossible to judge *precisely* how to supply these people who must as soon as the drawing commences, have upon the whole, great quantities of numbers to return. If these were of *real tickets and shares*, the proposers could not stand it, no profit would warrant it.

In this, the AMICABLE SOCIETY, every *certificate* as has been before stated, is marked with the *actual ticket or share* to which the party subscribes. The managers and secretary are bound UPON OATH, not to admit subscribers upon *any other principles*—not to admit *more claimants* than the *amount of the ticket*, and never

never to *alienate or dispose* of the ticket, till it is *actual*ly drawn.

Wherever proposals are offered as *subscriptions* to tickets or shares, and *contingent* or *collateral* benefits held forth, they are ABSOLUTELY ILLEGAL. As for example, promising to pay certain sums, or give any benefit in case *both* of *two* numbers are drawn prizes of any denomination—or if any number is drawn a prize or a blank upon any given day or days; wherever these appear, the appellation of a *subscription society* is a FALSE PRETENCE, the whole is contrary to ACT OF PARLIAMENT, nor would even the *possession* of the original tickets do away the offence.

Some assume the titles of *subscription societies*, without having either *tickets* or *shares*. In the last lottery, the AMICABLE SOCIETY detected and published many instances of this kind.

Others by the way of gaining credit *before the drawing*, publish the numbers of a few tickets, and even affect to exhibit them to subscribers.—This is NO SECURITY—in the first place, they may admit as many subscribers to one ticket as would require a MILLION to satisfy in case of a capital prize.—In the next, they may, AND DO, when the drawing is a little advanced, sell *these very tickets*.—In the AMICABLE SOCIETY, all these objections are fully obviated.

It is almost impossible to trace the various quirks and devices exerted to mislead the unwary, to imagine they are dealing with others, upon the same plan as is proposed, professed and demonstrated by the AMICABLE SOCIETY. The reader is troubled, however, with one more observation, which being added to the former, they may altogether tend to direct the judgment and shield against many impositions.

Wherever a plan is proposed as for subscribing to *tickets*, and that the WHOLE of the sums to be subscribed

scribed, together with every contingency, WILL NOT PAY THE PRICE OF A TICKET. There POSITIVELY must be A PALPABLE AND INDEFENSIBLE IMPOSITION. If the proposers have the tickets, they must multiply claimants upon them over and over without end.—If they have not the tickets, they are not only acting illegally, but unjustly, by taking money, under the *false pretence* of its being received as *towards the purchase of a ticket*, no such ticket being in their possession—One of the schemes of this kind, most particularly pressed upon the public notice, is subjoined by way of illustration and example. To avoid the least imputation of a partial statement, it is *exactly* copied *verbatim* and *literatim* from the advertisement of the proposers.

The whole of the purchase money returned, if drawn only a prize of 20l.

All the prizes, namely the first drawn ticket on the 1st, 4th, 7th, 10th, 13th and the 16th days; and the last drawn ticket on the last day, are entitled to 1000l. each, according to the scheme of the present ENGLISH STATE LOTTERY, which will begin drawing on the 6th of February, 1786, are included in the following plan, whether a 20l. or a 20,000l. and continue for the whole time of the drawing, and will be paid on demand, without any discount or deduction.

FRIENDLY BENEFICIAL SOCIETY
held at No. 26, Cornhill, by *Hornsby and Co.*

Who respectfully submit the following mode of subscribing to the present state-lottery. The encouragement they have met with from a generous public on every occasion, embolden them to hope, that the present plan will meet with universal approbation, as it

affords the greatest advantages that can possibly be given.

For One Guinea only.	For Half a Guinea.
If a 20,000 to 1,600 £.	If a 20,000 to 800 £.
10,000 to 800 ditto	10,000 to 400 ditto
5,000 to 400 ditto	5,000 to 200 ditto
2,000 to 160 ditto	2,000 to 80 ditto
1,000 to 80 ditto	1,000 to 40 ditto
500 to 40 ditto	500 to 20 ditto
100 to 10 ditto	100 to 5 ditto
50 to 5 ditto	50 to 2l. 10s.
20 to 1 Gu.	20 to Half-a Gu.
Being the whole of the Purchase Money.	Being the whole of the Purchase Money.

R E M A R K.

As the HALF GUINEA scheme in the above, bears precisely *half* the same proportion of benefits annexed to that stated at *one guinea*, the latter will sufficiently answer the purpose of critical investigation. It will be observed, that the sum of £1,600 *promised* upon the highest prize will *divide* but *twelve times* in £20,000. allowing very moderately for the discount, which is professed not to be charged to the adventurer; consequently, supposing a ticket to be really held in trust and no more claimants or subscribers permitted, than its total value in case of a prize, there can be but *twelve guineas* received for such ticket, which absolute- costs about fifteen pounds,

But it is also to be considered, that upon every prize of £20. there are but *twelve guineas* to be returned, so that upon each of these, there remains according to the general and usual current price of prizes, a balance of about £6. 15s.—which may be valued to every ticket separately, to produce upon each a difference of about £2.—This added to *twelve guineas* paid in the first instance, makes the real price of the ticket *actually re-
ceived*

ceived but £14. 12s. while such ticket as before stated, stands the proposers of the plan in £15.

Personality has been studiously avoided in the course of this publication, nor is it meant to be used in any comments upon the above plan, which has been selected merely because it is the most frequent of the kind in the eye of the public. No conjectures are hazarded whether justice can or will be rendered, or whether the reverse, must be experienced; it is left solely to the discernment of the reader to determine, how far it is probable that any man or set of men, should be so *very beneficent* to the world at large, as to be at an immense expence in printing, advertisements, clerks, &c. to furnish *all who apply* with tickets, at the rate of £14. 12s. when they are £15. in the Stock Exchange, in truth to lose *eight shillings* per ticket, besides all disbursements.

To obviate this, it may be pleaded, that they DO NOT HOLD ANY TICKETS—That the money received, will enable them to pay, and that they will faithfully pay any prizes.

Surely the reply to such an argument is plain—why then not fairly declare THIS to be your foundation? Why term yourselves *a subscription society*? Why mislead the public, and persuade them that they are doing a legal act—that they are subscribing to the purchase of, and possessing an interest in real tickets, held by you *in trust* for their use, at the same time you are conscious that you have no such ticket?

A review of the aforesaid specimens of delusive efforts, to establish what the parties please to call *subscription societies*, and a critical comparison between them, and the AMICABLE SOCIETY must display *the difference* in meaning and intent, to every capacity, on the one hand, they are evident *devices* to evade the law—on the other, all transactions are carefully framed

so as to have effect and be, *consonant with law*, and to forward the ends, which common reason points out, the legislature must have had in view. A case respecting insurances upon lives is perfectly analagous in these circumstances. There is all the distinction that subsists between insuring a life wherein the person so doing has an *actual interest*, and the making such an insurance upon mere *fancy and speculation*, without having any real interest. The first is established by the law of the land, the latter is prohibited.

CHANCES AND POLICIES.

There is this material distinction between these and the schemes *assuming the titles of subscription societies*, that the latter endeavour to draw in the unwary under *false pretences*, while the former state their proposals in the true shape which properly belongs to them.

They are literally a species of gaming, tantamount to insurances, only that they are limited to the *momentary impulse* of the purchaser, whose whole concern in the lottery may probably conclude with such purchase, without temptation *from day to day*, to renew or to encrease it to such an height as may be prejudicial.

It is to be lamented, that administration have not adopted some one of the many excellent plans offered to their consideration, for affixing a *stamp duty to these*. It would be a productive article of revenue, indeed of the first magnitude, if also extended to *insurances*—by such a step all evils supposed to accompany a lottery, must either without the least *intricacy or difficulty* be effectually removed, or such an immense acquisition to the *stamp duties* be drawn from them, as would be more than a compensation—added to this, under such regulations, at least £20,000. annually, could be derived from *licences* at £100. for every office, and with such alone, the

the public would have dealings ; nor is the reflection of trifling weight, that annihilation must ensue of the *terrible unconstitutional* latitude now given to *trading justices* and their instruments, *common informers*. The former, for the sake of the profit in which *they partake*, arbitrarily acting without regard to law ; and the latter, without hesitation, forswearing themselves upon every occasion. A plan to rectify these glaring abuses, similar to what has been suggested is now in contemplation.

In the purchase of chances and policies, it is necessary to regard the reputation of those with whom the business is transacted ; it is a kind of gaming ; a *transaction of honour*. There is no doubt but infinitely *better terms* may, in this way, be *fairly* proposed to the adventurer than in any shape can arise from *real tickets* ; because whatever their price is above 10*l.* is so much tax, which in *chances* or *policies* does not occur, or preponderate.

Whoever adventures in this way ought also to always carefully read the chance or policy before he becomes a purchaser, many of them hold forth very tempting allurements, and bear the appearance of affording *uncommon benefits* for the price, which, when they are minutely examined, are found to be in force only for a *few days* ; a *single day*, or even *part* of a day. Nay, there have been instances of some so artfully constructed, though *plausibly flattering*, that the whole Lottery might be purchased with immense odds against the buyers being intitled to a SINGLE GUINEA. For example, in some such you are told that you *may gain* TEN THOUSAND POUNDS for a trifle ; but when the ground of expectation is investigated, you find, that to be intitled to this, your number must be *first drawn*, it must also be *first drawn* upon a *particular day* ; and that *first drawn*

drawn must moreover be a prize of 20,000*l.* events not likely ever to happen in *twenty thousand years*, or the drawing of so many lotteries. Take this caution, therefore,—purchase nothing without carefully perusing it.

The SIX-PENNY and SHILLING chances are hardly worth notice ;—the sums are so small they cannot do mischief beyond a *disappointment* instead of a prize ; but as there are generally in these about FIVE THOUSAND BLANKS to one prize, there are also so many chances against a *disappointment*. They are commonly, admitting the prizes to be paid, intrinsically worth about ONE PENNY in every *Shilling*.

To estimate the *real value* of a chance, if it is at all comprehensible, and none that are not should be purchased, you have only to take the scheme, and cast up the gross amount of all the prizes ; afterwards multiply 50,000 the whole number of tickets in the lottery, by the price of the chance ; deduct from this the amount of the prizes, and you will immediately see what the balance is in favour of the proposer, who ought to have a reasonable, but not an immoderate profit ;—indeed if the profit is too small, or if there is none, you have good reason to apprehend he does not intend to fulfil his engagements.

WAGERS, or agreements for wagers upon the lottery are not contrary to act of parliament, and are recoverable by law ; this is certainly established by precedents in similar cases.



PLEASE to peruse the pamphlet sent herewith, describing the principles and regulations of a general open lottery society, entitled the AMICABLE SOCIETY of lottery adventurers.

Your opinion is requested,

1st. “ Whether these transactions which are evidently of, *the society collectively*, and no one particular person can be construed either as keeping a lottery office, or as doing any thing under any device, upon any event or contingency relative or applicable to the drawing of a ticket, and subject to any of the penalties prescribed in such cases.”

A N S W E R.

I have perused the pamphlet sent, with attention, and am of opinion, that a number of persons subscribing money, for the purpose of purchasing lottery tickets, or stamped shares of lottery tickets is not illegal. I do not think the mode of subscribing, proposed in the pamphlet, comes under any of the prohibitions enacted by statute 22. Geo. 3. cap. 47. or any other act of parliament for regulating lottery offices; for it does not appear to me, that a place where persons subscribe for the purchase of tickets, can be construed to come under the description of a lottery office.

2d. “ Whether the instrument termed a certificate, serving as a voucher for the party subscribing, that he or she has an interest in, and claim upon THIS SOCIETY, is not of that nature as would warrant and support an action at law for the recovery of any money accruing, in case it was withheld by the managers or trustees.

ANSWER

A N S W E R.

Should the trustee holding the ticket subscribed for, refuse to pay the subscriber his proportion of any prize which such ticket might be entitled to, I am of opinion that an action would lie against such trustee, for the recovery thereof.

LEON. MAC NALLY.

FIGG-TREE COURT, TEMPLE,

December 28, 1785.



